

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 1, 2, 5-14 and 16-25 are pending in the application and that claims 1, 2, 6-14 and 16-25 are rejected. However, claim 5 was previously cancelled. By this response, claims 1, 6-12, 16, 21-22, and 24 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 2, 6-14 and 16-25 remain pending in this application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 6-14 and 16-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yan et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,003,065) and *Inoue et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,456,388). Claims 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yan et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,003,065) and *Inoue et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,456,388), as applied to claim 21, and *Iwase et al.* (U.S. Published Patent Application 2002/0097262). Independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 have been amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) obviousness rejection. Claims 6-9, 11-12, and 22 have been amended to conform with the amendments made to the respective independent claims. Furthermore, claim 24 has been amended to provide further limitation where the server is configured to update each unique application with fixes to software viruses, and the loading mechanism downloads the updated unique applications to each respective printer.

Independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 have each been amended to include the features of a plurality of network-based appliances, with a loading mechanism downloading a respective application to each appliance. In the case of independent claims 1 and 16, the download occurs in response to a power on/off cycle. An application header and a universal resource locator are stored on a non-volatile storage device of each appliance and respective application bodies are provided on a web server corresponding with the universal resource locator for each appliance. In the case of independent claim 10, an application loader loads a unique extendable architecture application to each of at least two computer peripherals. In the case of independent claim 16, one appliance is updated with a first, separate dedicated application from a server and another

appliance is updated with a second, separate dedicated application from a server. In independent claim 21, a unique application is downloaded to each of the network-based appliances. Finally, dependent claim 24 provides the updating of unique applications with fixes to software viruses, as identified at page 10, lines 13-14, of the disclosure. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited prior art references.

Accordingly, the obviousness rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is believed to be overcome by the amendments to the claims as indicated above.

Independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 21 have been amended to overcome the above-cited rejections.

Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview before issuance of any such subsequent action.


Respectfully submitted,

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